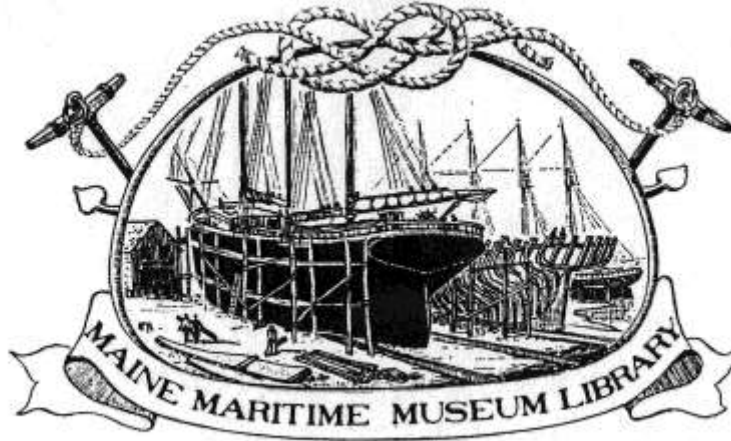


Maine Maritime Museum Library

243 Washington Street
Bath, Maine 04530-1638
(207)443-1316 ext. 328, or 336



**Inventory for
Manuscript Collection
MS-462**

**Steamboat Inspection Service Records, New
London, Connecticut**
Inclusive dates 1855 - 1894

by
Nathan R. Lipfert

March 2016

Number of Boxes: ½
Eight folders
Accession # 2006.087.01

A PART OF THE CAPTAIN W. J. LEWIS PARKER BEQUEST

COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS

The material described herein is the physical property of the Maine Maritime Museum Library. **Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or the various items, or to their legal representatives, or to Maine Maritime Museum.** For further information, consult the library staff.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be *“used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research.”* If a user later uses a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of “fair use,” that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if fulfillment of the order is judged to be in violation of copyright law.

It is the user’s responsibility to understand the copyright law concerning the use of the historical documents contained in this library.

Copyright 2016 by the Maine Maritime Museum

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Maine Maritime Museum Library.

Abstract

Steamboat Inspection Service, New London, Connecticut

Records, 1855-1894

½ box, eight folders

An agency of the Department of the Treasury of the United States, in this time period.

Files of certificates (licenses) granted by United States Inspectors to masters, mates, pilots and engineers of steam vessels at New London, CT. Most of these certificates are for men with surnames beginning with B or C.

Bequeathed by Capt. W. J. Lewis Parker in 2006.

MS-462, Accession # 2006.087.01

Finding aid in repository; folder level control.

Added Entries—People

Amidon, Isaac C.

Beckwith, Elisha P.

Cranston, Richmond

Daboll, C. M.

Hovey, Philo B.

Added Entries—Places

New London (CT)

Added Entries—Corporate bodies (including vessels)

Steamboat Inspection Service

Added Entries—Key terms

Masters

Mates

Engineers

Pilots

Acquisition

These records from the New London Steamboat Inspection Service were bequeathed to Maine Maritime Museum from the estate of Captain W. J. Lewis Parker in November and December 2006.

Provenance

Captain Parker was an extremely knowledgeable collector. He picked up many parts of his collection of maritime papers by purchase from dealers, auctions, or estate sales, or by gifts from relatives of maritime figures. We have found no documentation of how he acquired this particular group of manuscripts. These records were found in his study with similar items, and were part of his maritime library which he bequeathed Maine Maritime Museum.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research. Researchers should seek permission to obtain copies, and for publication of any sort.

Physical Condition

Other than the usual surface dirt and minor tears, the manuscripts in this collection have no physical problems. Overall, the records of the New London Steamboat Inspection Service are in good condition.

Historical Note

The federal government licensed officers of steam vessels long before becoming concerned about licensing officers under sail. The Steamboat Inspection Service was an agency of the Department of the Treasury from its creation in 1852 to 1903, the time when the records in this group were created. These records must at one time have been in the present New London Customs House, which dates to 1833. However, the current National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) does not keep these license certificates for officers, and so they must have been dispersed in some fashion when the other antique records were sent from New London to NARA in Washington, D.C.

Good information on these types of documents can be found in Douglas L. Stein's *American Maritime Documents, 1776-1860* (Mystic Seaport, 1992).

Scope and Content Note

These records are almost exclusively files of certificates (licenses) granted by United States Inspectors to masters, mates, pilots and engineers of steam vessels. There are also certificates for special engineers, joint licenses for pilots/engineers of open steam launches, and a certificate of lost or destroyed license.

Some of these certificates, such as the ones for pilots, were required to be renewed annually. This record group contains examples of this, with multiple certificates for the same man, dated one year apart.

Folder and Content Listing

Box # Folder#

1	1	Pilot's Certificate, 1855, John E. Whittlesey
---	---	---

- 2 United States Inspectors Certificate to Master of Steam Vessels,
1874, John D. Beckwith
- 3 United States Inspectors Certificate to Special Engineers of Steam
Vessels, 1887-1889
 - October 8, 1887, Thomas Jefferson
 - December 8, 1887, William E. Johnson
 - April 4, 1889, Thos. Cumming
 - May 28, 1889, Chas. J. Chadwick
 - July 12, 1889, Chas. Champlin
 - July 23, 1889, Lewis H. Jones
 - July 29, 1889, Horace E. Clark
- 4 United States Inspectors Certificate to Mate of Steam Vessels,
1892, Albert Lester
- 5 Unites States Inspectors Certificate to Engineers, 1871-1894
 - August 10, 1871, Wm. A. Briggs
 - September 1, 1876, Jesse Bradley
 - June 2, 1877, Geo. W. Brayman
 - January 3, 1878, Dickinson D. Beebe
 - February 7, 1878, John O. Beebe
 - May 21, 1879, Geo. W. Burbank
 - June 7, 1879, John Burke
 - June 16, 1879, Palmer C. Brooks
 - August 5, 1879, Andrew H.[J.?] Breed
 - August 19, 1879, Albert M. Beebe
 - September 18, 1879, L. D. Baldwin
 - November 1, 1880, Willis P. Bowen
 - June 19, 1883, Gilbert A. Jones
 - July 2, 1885, Lewis H. Jones
 - February 26, 1887, John C. Curnias
 - March 12, 1887, Simon F. Coit
 - April 12, 1887, Thos. Campbell
 - July 28, 1888, Chas. T. Jones
 - October 9, 1888, Henry A. Crocker
 - June 5, 1889, Russel C. Champlin
 - June 6, 1889, William H. Cone
 - September 23, 1889, Geo. M. Chase Jr.
 - October 7, 1889, Mills G. Coursey
 - May 16, 1890, John W. Peden
 - February 28, 1894, Wm. E. Johnson
- 6 United States Inspectors Certificate, Joint License Pilot and
Engineer of Open Steam Launches, 1893
 - June 24, 1893, L. R. Jewett
 - July 29, 1893, Wm. W. Horton
- 7 Steamboat Pilot's Licenses and Certificates, 1856-1869
 - July 23, 1856, William Wilcox
 - April 17, 1865, Charles F. Buell

September 1, 1865, Elisha S. Bidwell
 March 23, 1866, Henry Bennet
 September 1, 1866, Elisha S. Bidwell
 March 15, 1867, Henry Bennet
 September 1, 1867, Elisha S. Bidwell
 September 18, 1867, Alonzo P. Berdsley
 February 3, 1868, H. S. Bartlett
 March 21, 1868, Henry Bennet
 April 27, 1868, R. B. Brooks
 May 22, 1868, Albert F. Bishop
 July 7, 1868, James Butler
 August 2, 1868, Henry G. Roath, Jr.
 September 1, 1868, Elisha S. Bidwell
 September 18, 1868, Alonzo P. Berdsley
 April 28, 1869, R. B. Brooks
 May 11, 1869, Henry Bennet
 May 15, 1869, H. S. Bartlett
 May 23, 1869, Albert F. Bishop
 July 5, 1869, A. J. Bassett
 July 8, 1869, James Butler

- 8 Steamboat Engineer's Certificate, October 2, 1866, John C. King
- 9 Certificate of Lost or Destroyed License, March 22, 1893, Geo. T. Fuller